



COMMUNITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS MILWAUKEE COUNTY

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) UTILIZATION SPECIFICATIONS

(Milwaukee County Funded & Let Projects)

1. The award of this contract is conditioned upon the Good Faith Efforts (GFE) put forth by the bidder/proposer in achieving this contract's assigned Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE*) goal. The bidder/proposer shall operate in good faith to ensure that DBEs have opportunities to participate on this contract.
2. **DBE Goal:** This contract's DBE participation goal is 25%. For purposes of responsiveness, this participation goal shall be met based upon the dollar value of the base bid, initial offer or initial scope of work. As it may be in the best interest of Milwaukee County to accept the inclusion of alternates, or a best-final offer, approval of DBE participation shall be based upon total contract award. Likewise, if the successful contractor/consultant receives additional work on the contract, e.g., change orders, addendums, use of allowances, etc., DBE participation shall be based upon the revised contract total. **Contractors/Consultants, who are also DBE firms, must perform** at least thirty (30) percent of the contract with their own work force.

PRIOR TO BID/PROPOSAL OPENING

3. As a matter of responsiveness, the contractor/consultant shall submit with its original bid/proposal, the completed **Subcontractor/Subconsultant/Supplier Information Sheet (DBE-02)** and the signed and notarized **Commitment to Contract with DBE (DBE-14)** form(s) detailing the participation plan being proposed to meet or exceed this contract's participation goal. In the event the contractor/consultant is not successful in meeting the DBE goal, a complete **Certificate of Good Faith Efforts (DBE-01)** form and all relevant documentation shall be submitted with the bid/proposal in addition to the aforementioned forms. CBDP reserves the right to reject a bid/proposal, as non-responsive, if the required documentation is not submitted with the original bid/proposal.
4. Milwaukee County's Community Business Development Partners Department (CBDP) determines the sufficiency of the intended contract awardee's good faith efforts undertaken to achieve the assigned DBE participation goal. These efforts are proven by doing either of the following:
 - a. Evidencing that it has met the DBE participation goal by submitting with its bid/proposal a signed and notarized **Commitment to Contract with DBE (DBE-14)** form for each DBE documenting sufficient participation; or
 - b. Documenting the good faith efforts made to meet the DBE participation goal, even though it did not succeed in achieving the goal. In this case, the contractor/consultant shall submit the **Certificate of Good Faith Efforts (DBE-01)** and all relevant documentation, which will include a signed and notarized **Commitment to Contract with DBE (DBE-14)** form for each DBE documenting the participation achieved toward satisfying the goal, with its bid/proposal. CBDP is prohibited from ignoring *bona fide* good faith efforts when making determinations on requests for modification of the contract goal, in whole or part. Determinations are made on a contract-by-contract basis.
5. The efforts employed by the contractor/consultant should be those that one could reasonably expect to be taken if the contractor/consultant were actively and aggressively trying to obtain DBE participation sufficient to meet the goal. Mere pro forma efforts are not good faith efforts.
6. In the event CBDP determines that the contractor/consultant has failed to meet the GFE requirements, the contractor/consultant is entitled to appeal this determination.

* The term "DBE" means small business concerns known as Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms owned at least 51% by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, and certified by a State of Wisconsin UCP partner in compliance with MCCGO 42.02(1)(f).



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7. Listing a DBE on the ***Commitment to Contract with DBE (DBE-14)*** form shall constitute a written representation and commitment that the contractor/consultant has communicated and negotiated directly with the DBE firm(s) listed and secured actual pricing from the DBE firm. If awarded the contract, the contractor/consultant shall enter into contract agreement, directly or through subcontractors, with each DBE firm listed on the ***Commitment to Contract with DBE (DBE-14)*** form(s) for the work and price set forth thereon. The agreement(s) must be submitted to CBDP within seven (7) days from receipt of the "Notice-to-Proceed" or execution of the purchase order.
8. The DBE participation credited towards the contract goal for both DBE and non-DBE prime contractors is calculated on the following criteria:
 - a. Prime Contractor shall count towards the DBE requirement and be credited one hundred percent (100%) of expenditures to DBE firms, if all of the identified scope of work has a commercially useful function in the actual work of the contract and is performed directly by the listed certified DBE firm. CBDP is responsible for the determination and evaluation of whether or not the firm is performing a commercially useful function on this project.
 - b. Prime Contractor shall be credited with one hundred (100%) percent for the work performed by the DBE subcontractor with its own forces. If a DBE further subcontracts a portion of its work to another firm, the value of the subcontracted work will not be counted towards the DBE goals unless the work is performed by another DBE firm. The Prime Contractor will be given credit for the cost of material and supplies obtained by the DBE and installed by the DBE for work on the contract. The Prime Contractor will also be given credit for the cost of equipment leased by a DBE subcontractor provided the equipment is not leased from the prime contractor or its affiliates.
 - c. Prime Contractor shall be credited with one hundred percent (100%) of the expenditures to DBE manufacturers. A DBE manufacturer is a firm that operates or maintains a factory or establishment that produces on the premises goods from raw materials or substantially alters the materials or supplies obtained by the contractor.
 - d. Prime Contractor shall be credited with sixty (60%) of the expenditures for materials or supplies purchased from a certified DBE regular dealer.

A Regular Dealer is a firm that owns, operates, or maintains a store, warehouse, or other establishment in which the materials or supplies are kept in stock, and regularly sold to the public in the usual course of business. A regular dealer in such bulk items as steel, cement, gravel, stone, and petroleum products need not keep such products in stock, if it owns or operates distribution equipment.

Brokers, packagers and manufacturers' representatives or other persons who arrange or expedite transactions are not regarded as regular dealers.

- e. Prime Contractor shall be credited one hundred percent (100%) for the fees or commissions charged for assistance in the procurement of material and supplies. A prime contractor shall also be credited with one hundred (100%) percent for fees or transportation charges for the delivery of material or supplies by a DBE to a job site provided that the County determines that the fee is reasonable and not excessive as compared with fees customarily allowed for similar services. The cost of the material and supplies will not be credited towards its DBE goals.
- f. Prime Contractor shall be credited with one hundred percent (100%) of transportation expenditures with DBE trucking firms provided the DBE firm is responsible for the management and supervision of the entire trucking operation for which it has contracted. The DBE must also use trucks it owns, insures, and operates using drivers it employs. The DBE may lease trucks from another DBE firm, including an owner-operator who is certified as a DBE. The DBE who leases trucks from another DBE receives credit for the total value of the transportation services the lessee DBE provides on the



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contract. The DBE may also lease trucks from a non-DBE firm, including an owner-operator; however, the DBE who leases trucks from a non-DBE is entitled to credit only for the fee or commission it receives as a result of the lease arrangement. The DBE does not receive credit for the total value of the transportation services provided by the lessee, since these services are not provided by a DBE. (Concrete ready mix operations will not receive credit for leased concrete delivery trucks from non-DBE firms).

- g. Contractor/Consultant is required to notify the County Contract Administrator and CBDP if any DBE contractor(s) working on this contract will sublet any portion of their work on this project. Work will be credited based on actual participation by DBE firms.
- 9. Contractors/Consultants should note that for the purpose of determining compliance with the DBE requirements of this contract, only DBEs certified by the State of Wisconsin Unified Certification Program (UCP) prior to the bid/proposal submission deadline count towards the satisfaction of the goal. If a bidder/proposer wishes to utilize a DBE certified in another state for credit on this contract, the bidder/proposer shall include a copy of DBE certification from the home state along with its good faith efforts documentation upon submission of bid/proposal as a matter of responsiveness. Additionally, any such named DBE must apply for certification with the Wisconsin UCP prior to bid opening or proposal due date. For assistance related to certified DBE firms, contact the Certification and Compliance Administrator at (414) 278-4747.
- 10. When evaluating a contractor/consultant's proposed DBE commitment, Milwaukee County reserves the right to request supporting documentation from both the contractor/consultant and any listed DBE. If the information requested is not submitted by the contractor/consultant within the time specified for such submission, Milwaukee County may determine the contractor/consultant to be non-responsive and thereby remove them from further consideration for contract award.

FOLLOWING CONTRACT AWARD

- 11. When evaluating the performance of this contract after execution, Milwaukee County reserves the right to conduct compliance reviews and request, both from the contractor/consultant and any subcontractors/subconsultants or material suppliers, documentation necessary to verify actual level of DBE participation. If the contractor/consultant is not in compliance with these specifications, CBDP will notify the contractor/consultant in writing of the corrective action that will bring the contractor/consultant into compliance. If the contractor/consultant fails or refuses to take corrective action as directed, Milwaukee County may take one or more of the actions listed below:
 - a. Terminate or cancel the contract, in whole or in part;
 - b. Remove the contractor/consultant from the list of qualified contractors/consultants and refuse to accept future bids/proposals for a period not to exceed three (3) years;
 - c. Impose other appropriate sanctions, including withholding contract payments due which are sufficient to cover the unmet portion of the DBE contract commitment, where the failure to meet the DBE contract commitment is the result of a finding by CBDP of less than adequate good faith efforts on the part of the contractor/consultant; and/or
 - d. If the contractor/consultant has completed its contract, and the DBE contract commitment was not met due to an absence of good faith on the part of the contractor/consultant as determined by CBDP, the parties agree that the proper measure of damages for such non-compliance shall be the dollar amount of the unmet portion of the DBE contract commitment. The County may in such case retain any unpaid contract amounts otherwise due the contractor/consultant, up to the amount of the unmet DBE contract commitment. If insufficient funds remain in the contract account to compensate the County up to that amount, Milwaukee County may bring suit to recover damages up to the amount of the unmet



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commitment, including interest at the rate of 12% annually, plus the County's costs, expenses and actual attorney's fees incurred in the collection action.

12. Contractor/Consultant shall be credited for expenditures to DBE firms toward the requirements, if the entire identified scope of work has a commercially useful function in the actual work of the contract and is performed directly by the listed DBE firm. CBDP is responsible for the determination and evaluation of whether or not the firm is performing a commercially useful function on this project.
13. After the execution of the contract, contractor/consultant must submit copies of executed **Subcontract Agreement(s)** for each DBE firm listed on the contract. Attach agreements to the first payment application. **APPLICATIONS FOR PAYMENT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED IF AGREEMENTS ARE NOT SUBMITTED AS REQUESTED.** In addition, **contractor/consultant shall document** that each DBE is notified at least three (3) working days before start of their subcontract work.
14. Contractor/Consultant is required to notify the County Contract Administrator and CBDP if any DBE contractor(s) working on this contract will sublet any portion of their work on this project. Work will be credited based on actual participation by DBE firms.
15. Contractor/Consultant must maintain DBE participation and performance logs. If the DBE firm(s) cannot perform, if the contractor/consultant has a problem in meeting the goal, or any other problem relative to these requirements, the contractor/consultant shall immediately contact CBDP at (414) 278-4747. The prime contractor/consultant must submit written notification of desire for substitution to the DBE affected, and forward a copy to CBDP, specifying the reason for the request, including the performance log. Any DBE so notified has five (5) business days to provide written objection/acceptance to the prime making the notification. The "right to correct" must be afforded any DBE objecting to substitution/termination for less than good cause as determined by CBDP. Approval must be obtained from CBDP prior to making any substitutions. DBE contractors are also required to notify and obtain approval from CBDP prior to subletting work on this project.
16. **Requests For Payment:** A ***DBE Utilization Report (DBE-16)*** form shall be submitted with each payment request by the contractor/consultant after contract award. This report must cover the period from the start of the project to the end of each period covered by the request for payment being submitted. This report must be submitted even if no DBE activity took place during the period being reported. Contractor/Consultant must indicate on the AIA Document ***G703 - Continuation Sheet***, or similar, work being performed by DBEs by either a) placing the word "DBE" behind the work item or b) breaking out the work done by DBEs at the end of the report. Contractor/Consultant shall notify DBEs of the date on which they must submit their invoices for payment. Failure to submit required forms with requests for payment will result in denial of payment, or other sanctions deemed appropriate by Milwaukee County, including those listed in Section 11, above.
17. **Final Payment Verification.** Contractor/Consultant shall submit a ***Contract Close-Out DBE Payment Certification (DBE-18)*** form completed by the contractor/consultant and each DBE along with its final request for payment, in addition to a final ***DBE Utilization Report (DBE-16)*** covering the entire project. Milwaukee County will not process the final request for payment without inclusion of these required forms.
18. Milwaukee County has a revolving loan program for DBE firms. The program is administered by CBDP. Should the Prime Contractor utilize a DBE that is a participant in this revolving loan program, the contractor will cooperate fully and completely with the County to facilitate repayment of said loan. Said cooperation includes, but is not limited to, written information regarding balance of DBE subcontractor's contract, prior payment (two or three party) agreements, and the issuance of two-party checks payable in the name of Milwaukee County and the DBE indebted to the County under the revolving loan program.
19. Milwaukee County reserves the right to waive any of these specifications when it is in the best interest of the County and with the concurrence of CBDP.